

The Local Chapter

The local Chapter Advisor is the key to a successful program. The advisor must stimulate interest among the students and encourage them to become familiar with SkillsUSA. Students will join an organization that has something personal to offer. Students seek opportunities that challenge them and offer them growth yet still allow them to enjoy themselves. A plan of action aimed at different student needs and interest will reach more prospective members.

SkillsUSA members benefit most by being involved at each level of the state and national structure. Every member can be involved at the local level. SkillsUSA members have the competitive edge when they enter the work force if they participate in the SkillsUSA Championships. This program provides career and technical instructors (chapter advisors) with instructional tools to develop, practice and refine students' technical and leadership skills. SkillsUSA can help career and technical education programs attract more students to their respective career fields and encourage excellence in individual and team performance. Competition-local, district, state and national- is a vehicle that can motivate and inspire students to give their best. It prepares students for a highly competitive and demanding work force.

The success of the SkillsUSA year evolves around a well planned calendar of events. The chapter calendar must relate to the training areas and include both service-oriented projects and social activities. A complete program of work includes the use of SkillsUSA curriculum. Use of the curriculum encourages local business involvement in the training of tomorrow's entry-level workers. The curriculum's strength lies in its flexibility. It can be used as an individual self-development course or for group instruction. It can be integrated into the existing curriculum or used as a separate course of study. And remember, SkillsUSA programs function best when the entire class is involved.

Each chapter must have a constitution and a set of local officers. Recruiting members is important for SkillsUSA and your program, to thrive. An effective, quality chapter that draws positive public attention can help draw students to your program and the SkillsUSA. Every Chapter should have several copies of the SkillsUSA Leadership Handbook, one copy of The Meeting Kit, Advisors Success Kit (ASK), and the SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards. Any plan should include advertising chapter functions and making sure SkillsUSA is associated with a positive image. The SkillsUSA Statement of Purpose and Pledge are found in the SkillsUSA Leadership Handbook, which defines why students should join SkillsUSA.

Duties of the Chapter Advisor

- Have a positive outlook on SkillsUSA
- Work with and have administration support
- Work with and have community support
- Stimulate interest among students
- Work with students and elect quality officers
- Help the officers plan the program of activities
- Use officers and committees in the course of study
- Involve industry in the program of activities
- Provide the leadership for financial planning
- Provide the training and leadership for educational and social activities
- Use the Professional Development Curriculum

Day to Day Duties for the Local Advisor

- Provide dates, time and places for meeting
- Encourage all class members to join
- Include all of the membership in activities
- Provide officer training
- See that the roster and dues are turned in on time
- Make students aware of meeting, conferences and activities associated with SkillsUSA
- Provide opportunities for all students to be involved
- Partnership and involve industry
- Provide information on District, State and National Activities
- Completed Registration for conferences on time
- Advertise the school and students with news articles in papers, on radio and television and personal appearances
- Attend all meetings and participate on the District, State and National levels.

Timelines

August/September

- Elect and train officers
- Membership drive
- Local Activities
- State leadership and Mid-America Conference paperwork

October

- District Meeting
- Local Activities
- Rosters
- Attend State Leadership and Mid-America Conference

November/December

- Local Activities
- District Leadership Conference
- Plan District Championships

Jan/February

- Local Activities
- District Championships
- National SkillsUSA Week

March

- Local Activities
- State Championships

April/May

- Local Activities
- Registration for Nationals

June

- National Championships

July

- ACTE